THE HON'BLE Mr. JUSTICE GODA RAGHURAM

FRIDAY, THE 03rd DAY OF MARCH, 2006

W.P.No. 3015 of 2006

Between:-

P. Ramesh and twenty two others.

--Petitioners

And

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad and two others.

--Respondents

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GODA RAGHURAM

W.P.No. 3015 of 2006

Oral order:-

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Government Pleader for Civil Supplies and at their request, the writ petition is disposed of at the stage of admission.

All the petitioners were appointed as retail kerosene dealers/hawkers some time ago. Consequent on the appointment, they were assigned the work of distribution of kerosene to the cardholders. These dealers and hawkers had been making representations to the government and other authorities requesting that they be appointed as fair price shop dealers against the existing vacancies in fair price shops.

Responding to the representations, it is stated, the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, the 1st respondent herein, by a circular dated 19-03-2005 intimated that a group of Ministers at a meeting held under the aegis of the Hon'ble the Chief Minister on 15-01-2005, took a policy decision regarding conversion of the existing retailers as fair price shop dealers in a phased manner to make available all essential commodities to the cardholders under one roof. The circular directed all Collectors/Chief Rationing Officer, Hyderabad to take necessary steps for conversion of the existing nominated retailers as fair price shop dealers in a phased

manner.

The petitioner and other retail dealers and hawkers made further representations seeking implementation of the circular of the 1st respondent. Thereafter it is stated, the 1st respondent issued another circular dated 22-07-2005 directing all the Collectors/Chief Rationing Officer, Hyderabad to examine the cases of all the retailers. The petitioners' grievance is that till now the circular instructions issued by the 1st respondent have not been implemented. The petitioners claim that about 35 (thirty five) fair price shops have fallen vacant in Warangal district and the respondent Nos. 2 and 3, without considering the cases of the petitioners for conversion as fair price shop dealers, are proceeding to appoint temporary fair price shop dealers and are considering persons without any experience. The writ petition is filed for appropriate relief on the above pleadings.

In the circumstances stated by the petitioners, the respondents are directed to consider the cases of the petitioners for conversion as fair price shop dealers in accordance with the existing policy of the State Government, including in any existing or arising vacancies of fair price shops. If the State policy obligates consideration of the cases of the petitioners for conversion as fair price shop dealers, the respondents shall consider the cases of the petitioners in terms of the existing policy of the State, expeditiously. The writ petition is disposed of, as above. There shall be no order as to costs.

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GODA RAGHURAM, J

Dated: 03-03-2006

Pvks/*

Nb: Furnish c.c. in three days.

B/o pvks/*